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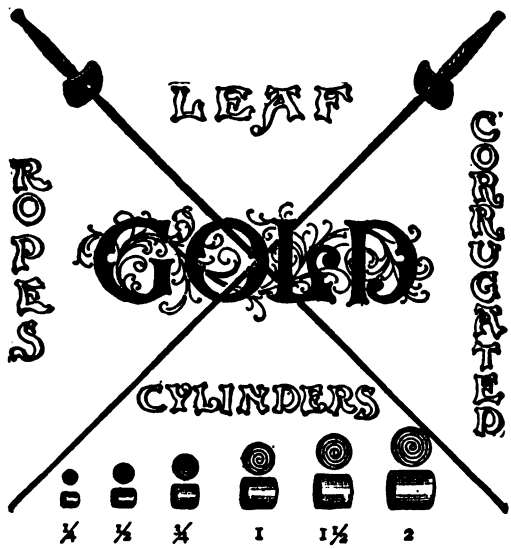

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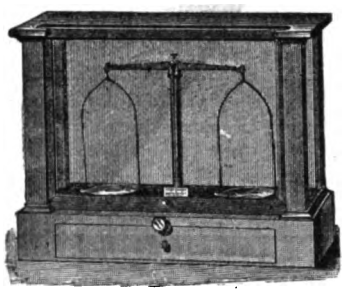

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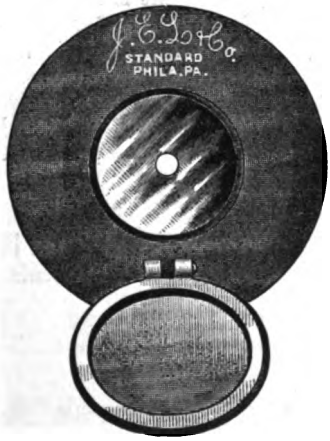

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THE JOURNAL OF THE MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA

Vol. IV PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 20, 1903 No. 8

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS

MEDICINE AS A SCIENCE.

Address of PROF. GEORGE H. MEEKER, M.S., Ph. D.

Delivered at the Opening Exercises, Sept. 28th, 1903

AT THE

MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL COLLEGE.

Ladies and Gentlemen, friends of the Medico-Chirurgical College and Hospital,—honored members of the faculties,—Alumni, undergraduates and well wishers of this noble institution,—acting for the faculties, I thank you for the honor and inspiration given by your presence here to-night; and bid you welcome to a function which, made brilliant by your participation, should be a happy omen for the brilliancy of the collegiate session so inaugurated.

It is often difficult to trace the origin of a tradition; but traditions, once established, often become unwritten laws of more potency than many of the regular legislative enactments. Tradition is nowhere more potent than in and about college halls. Some college traditions set objectionable rules. Thus, the objectionable hazing in colleges arises not, as charged, from the innate brutality of young men; but rather from well established traditions of potency greater than the moral courage of the Student body in combatting.

One of the traditions of the Medico-Chirurgical College is that upon the first evening of the college session, the latest elected professor shall deliver an introductory address. A better rule would be to select the best orator in the faculty to perform this duty. Your servant has not been selected according to the better rule.

These addresses are primarily designed for the presumptive benefit of the Students. With this end in view, and with the further hope that what I have to say will be of interest to all, I have selected as my leading topic, this subject:

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The Position of Medicine With Respect to Science.

Science is best defined as "the systematic knowledge of causes." Assuming that rational men were fully equipped with a systematic knowledge of even proximate causes it is an easy and simple conclusion that all valuable things could gradually be obtained through deductions from these known causative factors. Devoutly should we wish, then, for a state of human knowledge including all causes; and a diligent human kind earnestly drawing beneficent deductions therefrom. It seems hardly necessary to say it,—yet let it be said that the primordial cause of all things is clothed in impenetrable mystery. But dismay and inanition need not seize us. For, while it is true that men are not equipped with a full knowledge of those causative factors, the operations of which yield the effects which we have recorded in the collated human experience,—it is, nevertheless, most eminently the fact that we have knowledge of many causes; and that we have merely begun the collection of those valuable practical deductions which we, as reasoning beings, should be only too eager to grasp and to apply. Furthermore, we have in our hands the means for laying bare many causes now unknown. Whatever may be the duty of practical men, the duty of a college faculty is clearly to inculcate a knowledge of known causes; to encourage the pursuit of unknown causes; and to cultivate in students those rational habits of mind which alone can bring the practical blessings which flow from the applications of great natural laws. This is the spirit of Science. This is the spirit of the Century. And, let it be proudly said, this is the spirit of the Medico-Chirurgical College.

When we speak of causes or natural laws in these days there should be no confusion between real laws and supposed laws. The true laws of nature are only developed by patient, intelligent experiment,—uninfluenced by any mere doctrine or dogma. The history of medicine is replete with examples of the application of dogma; and in that time to come, as we are told, all things will be known,—dogmatic medicine, I ween, will be classed as a fitting companion with wars, fanaticism and pestilence.

A brief survey of some of the important dogmas of medicine will serve to emphasize the difference between the past with its doctrine, and the present with its dawn of the scientific in medicine. Looking adown the ages, we see the Homeric Greeks in the worship of a special god of healing, Asclepius. This cult was very widely spread among the Greeks; had great civil importance; and lasted even into Christian times. We see to-day its most prominent prototype in the so called Christian Science. Sick persons repaired or were conveyed to the temples of Asclepius in order to be healed, just as in modern times relief is sought by a devotional pilgrimage, or from the waters of, some sacred spring. And then, as now, the healing influence was

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sometimes sought by deputy. The sick person, or his representative, after ablution, prayer and sacrifice, was made to sleep on the hide of the sacrificed animal, or at the feet of the statue of the god, while sacred rites were performed. In his sleep the appropriate remedy was indicated by a dream,—truly a medical nightmare in a dual sense.

Passing to the days of Pericles we see Hippocrates, the greatest physician of his times, dominating Greek medicine. Hippocrates had a most high ideal as to the duties of a physician, and repudiated religious rites in such a connection.

A brief study of the chief ideas of Hippocrates is most instructive, for it shows the clear recognition which, twenty-four hundred years ago, eminent men possessed concerning the value of strictly scientific methods as applied to medicine. Hippocrates had a clear recognition of disease as being, equally with healthy life, a process governed by what we should now call natural laws, which could be known by observation, and which indicated the spontaneous and natural direction of recovery. These views of the natural history of disease led to habits of minute observation, so that even in these days, the true method of clinical medicine may be said to be the method of Hippocrates. But of anatomy, physiology, pathology, physics and chemistry, Hippocrates had only a most meagre knowledge. To our shame and to his credit, be it said that had Hippocrates had such a knowledge of these subjects as we possess, he would likely have far surpassed us. With his scant knowledge, Hippocrates had, perforce, to turn to dogma; and thus to finish our picture by an absurd example of the unscientific in medicine. The dominating theory of diseases was the humoral. According to this celebrated theory, the body contains four humors,—blood, phlegm, yellow bile and black bile, a right proportion and mixture of which constitute health; improper proportions or irregular distribution, disease. While this seems like utter nonsense to us, I submit it is no more nonsensical than the statement, gravely made in these days, of vital action and the like, as though they were real entities rather than mere gauzy cloaks for ignorance.

Passing over the Schools of Herophilus and Eristratus, whose disciples lost themselves in the mazes of theoretical subtleties evolved from their inner consciousness, we come to the Alexandrian School known to history as the Empirics. This school rejected anatomy, regarding it as useless to inquire into the causes of things; and relying solely on experience. In Rome the first great medical system is found under the name of Methodism. The Methodists had a contempt for anatomy; and considered it useless to inquire into either the cause of a disease or its location. They desired to know only what they claimed as common to all diseases: (1) relaxation, (2) contraction, and (3) a mixed state partly lax, partly constricted. If they thought the body "contracted," they "relaxed"; if "relaxed," they "contracted";

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if "mixed," they "relaxed" or "contracted" according to the requirements of proper balance.

The pneumatic school, which dated shortly after Christ,—attributed all conditions of the body, whether in health or disease, to the operations of the universal soul or "pneuma"—whatever that may be.

In the second Century there arose an intellectual giant among physicians, the renowned Galen. This man had a splendid mind, great industry, and the scientific spirit. But, having no scientific basis for work, again gives us a merely dogmatic system. His doctrine included the four humors of Hippocrates and a metaphysical pneuma which mingled with the humors in various proportions, producing thus his mixtures or temperaments. These temperaments depended also upon the proportion in the body of the four elements,—hot, cold, wet and dry. From faulty proportions arose "distempers"; and distempers in connection with deleterious influences from without, were the causes of disease. In drugs, Galen also recognized the elements hot, cold, wet and dry,—a moist drug being used in a dry disease and so on. While Galen's dogmatic exposition of disease and of medication is merely quaint and entertaining jargon to us, it was nevertheless a very complete and perfect dogmatic system; was seriously entertained for generations; and has left an indelible impress upon our common language.

Just as Hippocrates was the commanding figure in Greek medicine, so Galen stands in the forefront of medical learning of Roman times. In medical, as in civil history, there is no real break. A continuous thread of learning and practice must have continued to the dawn of science in the Middle Ages. But the thread of intellectual history is naturally more difficult to follow than the thread of civil history. The chief homes of medical learning during the Dark Ages were the monasteries,—in which a mixture of magic superstition and Greek and Roman relics passed for medical knowledge. About the Eleventh Century the famous medical school of Salerno appears in its full power as the evolved form of monastic medicine. It may interest those who clamor for socalled woman's rights to know that among the lists of professors in this early school, appear the names of several women. Salernitan medicine introduced no novel ideas; but formed a bridge between the ancient and modern times. As a good example of the condition of medicine at about the close of the Dark Ages, I will mention a noted scholastic conflict which occupied the stage near the beginning of the Sixteenth Century. Hippocrates and Galen had recommended that blood letting be from or near the diseased part. Mediaeval authorities had developed the idea that bleeding should be from a part remote from an affected organ. Brissot, a professor of medicine in the University of Paris, attempted to revive the Galenical practice. His attempt resulted in his expulsion

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from Paris; and the proscription of his method by formal act of Parliament. Moreover, the controversy excited by this trifling question lasted many years, occupied several universities, and led to the interposition of personages no less important than the pope and emperor.

At about the period now engaging our attention, the famous Paracelsus promulgated a new doctrine. Anatomy by him was utterly rejected. The human body was a microcosm which corresponded to the macrocosm, and contained in itself all parts of visible nature,—sun, moon, stars and the poles of heaven. To know the nature of man, and how to deal with it, the physician should study only those parts of nature external to man. Life was a process controlled by the spirit, Archeus, and diseases were spirits. Medicines, or arcana, operated against the spirits of disease. Paracelsus gave us the name laudanum; and his disciples were as well known for their use of antimony, as many recent physicians for their use of calomel. Von Helmont extended the notions of Paracelsus. According to Von Helmont, the body contains a number of spirits. These spirits sometimes quarrel; or get disturbed ideas. By the use of proper remedies, the spirits could be brought back to sanity again.

Modern scientific medicine has its beginnings in the Seventeenth Century, about three hundred years ago. Anatomy was now beginning to be seriously studied by men whose minds were open for the truth—regardless of whether or not the developed truths were opposed to accepted doctrines. The greatest discovery to be recorded at this period is that of Harvey, who proved that the blood pursues a true circulatory pathway—from the heart, to the arteries, through the capillaries, into the veins and back again to the heart. The so-called iatro-chemical and iatro-physical schools of medicine began seriously the study of the chemical and physical processes of the body. The clinician was meanwhile recording accurate and for the most part unbiased observations of the signs, course and progress of various diseases. The materia medica was being enriched by many botanical discoveries following the wonderful geographical discoveries of the Sixteenth Century. Therapeutics began to improve as doctrines began to decline.

It must not be supposed that many old errors did not remain; or that many new errors did not come. The human mind has eminently that negative property which physicists call inertia. Inanimate matter is said to have inertia because being once in a state of rest it will so continue forever unless it have motion communicated to it by another body in motion; or matter in a state of motion will continue forever to move in a straight line at uniform speed unless its direction or speed be changed by some exterior thing. Old, cherished, deep-rooted, erroneous ideas can only be displaced from the

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mind, and that most reluctantly, by the tremendous mental energy of the relatively few great minds—and these minds, themselves show only a gradual progress. Furthermore, intellectual history is full of illustrations of the other phase of inertia—for, having once altered our thoughts, we are prone to explain all things, whether relevant or irrelevant, from the standpoint of our advanced ideas. Even in these days we need not unduly flatter ourselves for we have to-day a prominent school of physicians which is founded on several absurd doctrines, the fundamental pathological theory being that all chronic maladies result either from three diseases,—simple itch, barber's itch or syphilis; or else are maladies produced by medicines. Seven-eighths of all chronic diseases are produced by itch driven inward. As a matter of fact, the itch is produced by the presence in the skin of a species of mite; and when this is destroyed or removed, the disease is at an end.

Having now indicated the scientific mode of thought as well as its antitype, the doctrinal or dogmatic type of reasoning, let us compare the two a little more minutely and critically. In both cases we have to consider the operation of causes or laws. The doctrinal method, however, is to presuppose a cause; and then by more or less subtle reasonings to show how the presupposed cause operates in producing observed results. The doctrinal method of investigation is essentially an easy-chair method,—the word dogma meaning simply "thought." The dogmatist may, indeed predicate his thoughts upon facts; but the facts are always insufficient for the conclusion drawn; and he does not test by unbiased experiment the uniform failure of his doctrine to account for all pertinent observable facts. The scientific method is a most laborious one. Beginning with all pertinent observable facts in a given series, we simply note in what manner these facts are correlated. A statement of this correlation is one of the natural laws—provided all observable facts, which would follow as consequences of this law, are examined by critical experiment, and found to harmonize. Observation, correlation, verification—of such is the method of the Scientist. Information, speculation, damnation—of such is the method of the dogmatist.

Science may be naturally divided into various groups, viz: abstract, abstract-concrete, and concrete. The abstract sciences are logic and mathematics. They treat of the blank forms in which phenomena occur in relation to time, space and number. The abstract-concrete sciences are mechanics, physics, and chemistry. While their subject matter is found in a consideration of varied concrete phenomena, they do not aim at the explanation of concrete phenomena as such, but at the determination of certain abstract quantitative relations and sequences known as the laws of mechanics, physics and chemistry, which are never manifested in a pure form, but always are inferred by

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observation and experiment upon complex phenomena in which the abstract laws are disguised by their simultaneous interaction. The group of concrete sciences included astronomy, geology, biology and sociology. These sciences aim to explain the concrete complex phenomena of the stellar system, the earth as a whole, the living matter on the earth's surface and human society—by reference to the properties of matter set forth in the generalizations or laws of the abstract-concrete sciences i. e., mechanics, physics and chemistry.

It will be noted from what has just been said that biology,—or the science of living things,—and its kin, hark back to natural philosophy, i . e., mechanics, physics and chemistry. But natural philosophy, at it approaches from proximate cause to final cause, comes nearer and nearer to mathematics—so that the final trend of all science is toward mathematics. Beyond mathematics lie the awful confines of eternity and the Omniscient. We are very far from such a consummation. Proximate causes alone guide us at present in the abstract-concrete sciences; but the results obtained are always true as far as they go; and provide a sum total of knowledge which makes our age magnificent beyond all others. Medicine is essentially a branch of biology. For a very long period biology was limited to the accumulation of observations, which were noted, tabulated and contemplated by the students of the subject with wonder and delight; but only to a limited extent, and in restricted classes of facts with any hope or intention of connecting the phenomena observed with the great nexus of physical sequence or causation. A vague desire to assign the forms and the activities of living things in all their variety to general causes has always been present to thoughtful observers from the earliest times of which we have record, but the earlier attempts in this direction were fantastic in the extreme; and it is the mere truth that at the time when the phenomena of inorganic nature had been recognized as the outcome of uniform and constant properties capable of analysis and measurement, living things were still left hopelessly out of the domain of explanation, the earlier dogmas having been rejected and nothing as yet suggested in their place.

In the Seventeenth Century, the lovers of the new philosophy, the investigators of nature by means of observation and experiment, banded themselves into academies for mutual support and intercourse—just as the students in the Medico-Chirurgical College are wont in a modest way, and for similar purposes, to form various societies of learning. It is difficult to exaggerate the profound influence for good which has been exercised by these associations upon all branches of science. The essential importance of learned societies is to be found, as Laplace, the great French astronomer, and illustrious kin of our own professor of surgery, has said, "in the philosophic spirit that develops itself in them, and spreads itself from them as

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centers over an entire nation and all relations. The isolated man of science can give himself up to dogmatism without restraint—he hears contradictions only from afar. But in a learned society the enunciation of dogmatic views leads rapidly to their destruction; and the desire of each member to convince the others necessarily leads to the agreement to admit nothing excepting what is the result of observation or mathematical calculation."

The influence of the scientific academies, and the spirit in which they worked in the Seventeenth Century cannot be better illustrated than by an examination of the early records of the Royal Society of London. The spirit which animated the founders and leaders of that society cannot be better expressed than by its motto "Nullius in verba." Marvellous narrations were not permitted at the meetings of the society; but solely demonstrative experiments or the exhibition of actual specimens. Definite rules were laid down by the society for its guidance designed to secure the collection of solid facts, and the testing of statements involving novel or remarkable observations. Under the influence of the touchstone of strict inquiry set on foot by the Royal Society, the marvels of witch-craft, sympathetic powders and other relics of mediaeval superstition, disappeared like a mist before the sun, whilst accurate observations and demonstrations of a host of new wonders accumulated, among which were numerous contributions to the anatomy of animals, and none perhaps more noteworthy than the observations made by the aid of microscopes constructed by himself, of Leenwenholk, the Dutch naturalist (1683).

It was not until the Nineteenth Century that the microscope thus early applied to the study of animal structure was perfected as an instrument, and accomplished for biology its most important work. The earlier half of the Nineteenth Century is remarkable for the rise, growth and full development of a new current of thought in relation to living things, expressed in the various doctrines of development which were promulgated, whether in relation to the development of individual animals and plants, or in relation to their origin from predecessors of past ages. The perfecting of the microscope led to a full comprehension of the great doctrine of cell structure and the establishment of the facts (1) that all organisms are either single corpuscles (cells) of living material or are built up of an immense number of such units; (2) that all organisms begin their individual existence as a single unit or corpuscle of living substance, which multiplies by binary fission; and (3) that the life of a multicellular organism is the sum of the activities of the corpuscular units of which it consists, and that the processes of life must be studied in and their explanation obtained from an understanding of the physical and chemical changes which go on in each individual corpuscle or cell.

On the other hand the astronomical theories of development of

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the solar system from a gaseous condition to its present form, put forward by Kant and Laplace, had impressed men's minds with the conception of a general movement of spontaneous progress or development in all nature; and, though such ideas were not new, but are to be found in some of the ancient Greek philosophers, yet now for the first time they could be considered with a sufficient knowledge and certainty as to the facts, due to the careful observations of the two preceding centuries. The science of geology came into existence, and the whole panorama of successive stages in the earth's history, each with its distinct population of strange animals and plants, unlike those of the present day and similar in proportion as they recede into the past was revealed by Cuvier, Agassiz and others. The history of the crust of the earth was explained by Lyell as due to a process of slow development, in order to effect which he called in no cataclysmic agencies, no mysterious forces differing from those operating at the present day. Thus he carried on the narrative of orderly development from the point at which it was left by Kant and Laplace—explaining by the ascertained laws of physics and chemistry the configuration of the earth, its mountains and seas, its igneous and stratified rocks, just as the astronomers had explained by those same laws the evolution of the sun and planets from diffused gaseous matter of high temperature.

The suggestion that living things must also be included in this great development was obvious. They had been so included by poet-philosophers of past ages; they were so included by many a simple minded student of nature who, watching the growth of a tree from the seed, formed a true but unverified inference in favor of a general growth and development of all things from simpler beginnings. The delay in the establishment of the theory of organic evolution was due not to the ignorant and unobservant; but to the leaders of biological science.

Knowing as they did the almost endless complexity of organic structures, realizing as they did that man himself with all the mystery of his life and consciousness must be included in any explanation of the origin of living things, they preferred to regard living things as something apart from the rest of nature specially cared for, specially created by a Divine Being, rather than to indulge in hypothesis which seemed to be beyond all possibility of proof, and were rather of the nature of poets' dreams than in accordance with the principles of that new philosophy of rigid adherence to fact and demonstration which had hitherto served as the mainsprings of scientific progress. It was reserved for Charles Darwin in the year 1859 to place the whole theory of organic evolution on a new footing, and by his discovery of a mechanical cause actually existing and demonstrable by which organic evolution must be brought about, to en-

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tirely change the attitude in regard to it of even the most rigid exponents of the scientific method.

In the development of the science of biology, as just sketched in a general way, and more particularly in the scientific development of medicine, we observe that gradual progress which is an eminent characteristic of the scientific method. First comes the study of anatomy by the unaided eye. Such studies inevitably led men temporarily into error. For, having developed the forms and morphological relations of the organs, they naturally busied themselves in speculations as to the purposes of each part. In this quest they had to guide them only the general teleological dictum that every part of the human body must serve some useful purpose. Even such an apparently true dictum is erroneous; for we now know that certain anatomical entities, such as the vermiform appendix, for example, are only relics, worse than useless, of a paleozoic forbear. And, by the way, it may be interesting to note that the newspapers give us early report of one enthusiast at the present meeting of the Pennsylvania Medical Society who recommends that we all submit ourselves to the knife and be rid of this troublesome appendix ere it kicks up that enteric rumpus which is its only apparent specialty. With the advent of the microscope, and its perfection, came the long train of discoveries in minute anatomy. The gradual increase in chemical and physical knowledge, combined with the progress in gross and minute anatomy, paved the way for the physiologist in his studies of function—the optical, electrical, chemical, thermal and acoustic apparatus proving in the hands of many patient physiological investigators, veritable touchstones of biological truth. The discovery of the cell as the biological unit; the development of embryology; the eminent results of the labors of pathologists, crowned in recent years by the uncovering of the microscopical causes of many diseases; and the theory of the toxine and the anti-toxine; the accurate records of clinical observations; the chemical and botanical studies which have so enriched the materia medica; and the employment by the clinician of all of these results, as well as of the mechanical and physical and chemical aids made possible by the state of technical science have been circumstances following each other in orderly scientific profusion—and have placed medicine definitely among the concrete sciences. What a picture it makes! And how childish the plaint of the student who cries "don't teach me science, teach me the practice of medicine."

So much for the past and present. What of the future? A moment's reflection will bring home to the mind that the anatomist, pathologist and physiologist all find a common final cause in the cell. That they have followed the cell throughout its multiplex morphological and functional mutations is not for a moment to be supposed;

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and the generalizations to come are likely to vie in grandeur with those now with us. But chemical and physical knowledge permits us to say that the cell itself is simply a complex of lesser units or molecules. These again are congeries of atoms; atoms are aggregates of electrons, whilst the interspaces harbor the all pervading physical ether a substance as nearly or quite as intangible as a mathematical abstraction. Of all of these things we have some definite knowledge. Such being the fact it is evident that the cell in performing its essential biological functions of movement, assimilation, growth, reproduction and excretion, is simply undergoing a definite orderly series of molecular, atomic and etheric mutations. Even a proximate understanding of the nature of these motions would mean a greater advance for medicine than the development of the cell theory itself; and bring the domain of life into continuation with the inanimate. The solution of these basic problems of life is the field of the physicist and chemist. What is the outlook? During the Nineteenth Century physics and chemistry have made greater advances than the other sciences. The results achieved have alone made possible the great work in anatomy, pathology and physiology; and while biologists have been bringing their findings near to the limits of morphology, physicists have been nearing the confines of mathematical abstraction. Great stores of physical and chemical knowledge have been gathered, grouped and correlated by natural laws. These laws have again been referred to more nearly primordial causes. Physical science has therefore well equipped itself for the problems set; and I venture the statement that nothing is lacking save that great mind which shall perceive and prove in the mass of biological and physical knowledge of the times, the true connection between the animate and the inanimate. Even the lesser minds of science can now dimly discern the character of this connection, and if one of these lesser minds may be permitted to speculate, he would submit this hypothetical connection. Thus:

We know that every organism, in its primitive state, consists of a single cell; that this cell is a complex of physical particles; that the interspaces between these physical particles are occupied by the all pervading ether; that the ether is the theatre of a multitude of special motions; that the motions of physical particles are communicable to the ether that the etheric motions are communicable to the physical particles; that the varying kinds of atoms have as varying conditions of harmonic vibration; that of the infinitely possible kinds of molecules, each kind has its specific condition of harmonic vibration. Now, given a specific vibration in the ether, such vibration would be communicable only to those cellular physical particles as are capable of harmonic vibration of the same type—and these particles alone would respond to this etheric impulse,

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Each cell, we could thus conceive, has its growth and other functions controlled not by any innate power; but simply because each physical particle of which it is composed picks up from the ether a specialized motion; and the sum total of all of these special motions constitutes the phenomena of life. Life thus becomes music; and so long as the harmony is fairly complete between ether and cell particles, and between the various cell particles life maintains with all its functions. Let any exterior influence, however, modify this harmony to one extent, and there is a partial loss or alteration of function—this is senility or disease. Let any exterior influence modify the cell harmony to a further extent, and there is a loss of function—this is the resting cell—or it is death.

THE DIETETIC TREATMENT OF CHRONIC NEPHRITIS.

By

J. M. ANDERS, M. D., Ph. D.

Professor of Medicine and Clinical Medicine at the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia.

There is no disease in which a proper management of the diet is of greater importance to the patient than chronic nephritis. The dietary that fails to meet the requirements of nutrition, plus the loss of albumen, which takes place through the kidneys, amounting to 1, 2, or even 3 grams daily, is inadequate and certain to be followed by the evidences of malnutrition. Efforts to lessen the degree of albuminuria at the expense of the quality of the blood and general nutrition are not so much blessings as evils. By means of a proper diet, we may postpone, if not at times prevent, the later development of true contracted kidney. The diet of the nephritic patient must be flexible and adaptable to the various changing conditions of the patient as well as the seasons.

Individual cases present certain peculiarities; hence it is not possible to formulate a dietary that would be suitable for all cases, and the indications also vary with the stage of the morbid process; for example,—in the presence of marked gastric irritability, and during acute exacerbations, an exclusive milk diet may be necessary, although ordinarily it is not well to restrict the food to milk alone.

Milk does not furnish sufficient either of iron or the carbohydrates to sustain the system. In his experience, the long continued restriction of the diet to milk alone has repeatedly produced an undue general weakness. He contended that the ingestion of excessive quantities of milk or water or both tended to augment the labor of

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the heart. Von Noorden has pointed out that inundation of the vascular system with water does correspondingly increase the work of the heart, which thus sustains permanent damage.

In advanced cases of granular kidney, active heart disease is a constant concomitant, and it calls for careful management, with a view to preserving the integrity of the cardiovascular system.

Cases in which the appetite and digestion are still good, require a suitable mixed dietary. It has been shown experimentally that on a full meat diet the amount of albumen secreted is about doubled. It is clear, therefore, that the larger the quantity of proteid foods consumed, beyond certain limits, the greater will be the accumulation of urea, which is most irritating to the tissues. In the circulation; certain urinary salts derived principally from meats as chlorides, carbonates, and phosphates, but especially the chlorides act as irritants to the kidneys.

He expressed the view that the clinicians manifest a general tendency to supply the system with an insufficient amount of albuminous aliment, in view of the constant systemic drain, and pointed out that proteids form the essential basis of all tissues and that perfect metabolism cannot be accomplished, without a certain definite quantity of nitrogen. Dr. Anders is of the opinion that red meats show as good nitrogen,—excretion, as white meats.

Fats are allowable, hence the use of skim milk instead of whole milk is not advised, and butter is also allowed except in cases of obesity. The merits of each case should be considered from two points of view, namely, what quality and quantity of aliment the patient should take, and secondly, what he can take. In general he would say that whole milk should make up a considerable portion of the diet, and the meats should be somewhat restricted, while green vegetables and rice may be given rather freely. He emphasized the fact that a normal daily physiological quantity of food is required, and that is practically as follows: 110 to 130 grams of albumen, 350 to 400 grams of carbohydrates, 75 to 110 grams of fat, 2500 to 3000 grams of water, and 18 to 30 grams of inorganic salts. Expressed in different terms, the body needs from 2000 to 2400 calories per diem during rest, and from 2400 to 3000 calories during hard labor. This consists of about 600 calories of proteids, 1200 calories of carbohydrates, 600 calories of fat. It may prove helpful to remember that 100 grams of meat represent 213 calories and one glass of milk equals 128 calories; also that an ordinary slice of bread (30 grams) equals 64 calories, while 18 grams of butter equals 8 calories. It is often impossible to persuade patients suffering from chronic nephritis to adhere rigidly to a prescribed diet and thus it often happens that

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milk is not well supported and even refused. In which case, the solid proteids or fruits and vegetables must be correspondingly increased. It must be born in mind that the percentage of nitrogen in milk is only one-quarter as great as in meats. Vegetables, however, also contain nitrogen, hence we can supply this element by drawing more largely than is usual on the vegetable kingdom.

As regards the manner of feeding, it was advised to take small meals at three-hour intervals.

The extent to which a given diet contributes to the nutrition and development of bodily strength must be carefully estimated. This is accomplished by noting the effect upon the degree of albuminuria and also upon the kidney elimination of the normal metabolic products, as urea, creatinin, hippuric acid, phosphates, inorganic sulphates, chlorides, carbonates, uric acid, xanthim ases, etc. The majority of these substances are imperfectly excreted in marked renal lesions, especially if the amount of food ingested be excessive.

Von Noorden has shown that chemical substances cannot be recommended as a test of the secretory functions of the kidney. The chemical study of the products of elimination in granular kidney is too difficult for ordinary clinical purposes. Von Noorden has found it practicable to fix standard values expressed in bulk or weight; he found, calculating on the basis of 70 kg. body weight that from 13 to 16 grams of nitrogen are ingested daily by the nephritic patient who enjoys good general health.

Furthermore, he found that when the ingestion of albumen was increased so that considerable more than 15 grams of nitrogen daily had to be excreted by the kidneys, the elimination became irregular.

Cryoscopy serves to indicate the presence and degree of renal insufficiency. The results are especially favorable when urine is obtained by catheterization of the ureters, and in all cases in which a catheter specimen is not obtainable, cryoscopic examination of the blood is to be given the preference, because the freezing point of normal human blood is practically constant.

Finally, Dr. Anders emphasized the importance of keeping a careful record of the bodily weight of the patient at intervals, so that the diet may be increased in case the general nutrition declines; he also urged the importance of systematic blood examinations as a means of ascertaining the state of the general nutritive processes. Progressive symptomatic anemia is often found in cases in which the physical powers are declining, and is due to subnutrition from insufficient alimentation.

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PHYSIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

THE RELATION OF THE VAGUS TO INTESTINAL PERISTALSIS.

(Preliminary Note.)

By ISAAC OTT, M. D.

Nearly twenty years ago I showed that certain drugs, like eserin, nicotin and muscarin, excited the intestino-motor ganglia, whilst atropin and morphia produced an unusual quietude by an action on the intestino-inhibitory ganglia. In these experiments I used the salt crystal (Nothnagel) which when applied to the intestine is followed by contraction always running towards the pylorus. The salt stimulates Auerbach's plexus. The relation of the vagus to peristalsis is still a subject warm by disputations. Budge, Ludwig, Kuppfer and Engleman believe it is a motor nerve for peristalsis, whilst Von Braam Houckgeest holds it has no direct action on the intestinal movements. Jacobi believes the vagus to be a motor nerve and that its action is best shown when the splanchnics are previously divided. Dr. Starling believes the vagus contains both motor and inhibitory fibres. He divided the splanchnics first, then gave atropin to cut out the cardio-inhibitory fibres in the vagus. With this state of affairs he irritated the vagus and found that the irritation causes an inhibition of intestinal movements by the dropping of one or two beats and then an augmentation of the rhythmic contractions, which gradually develop after the lapse of ten to thirty seconds. As I have shown, atropin itself produces an unwonted quietude of the intestines. We have here a drug which will confuse any result as to the action of the vagus. The method I employed was to cut the right vagus in the rabbit, sew up the wound and let the animal live a week or ten days. After this period the cardio-inhibitory fibres in the vagus were degenerated and stimulation of the vagus had no effect upon the heart. Arrest of the heart produces anemia of the intestines, which arrests their movements. Then the intestines were laid bare in the etherized animal in a warm room (95 degrees F.) and covered with cloths saturated with warm normal saline. There are two kinds of peristaltic movements, the vermicular and the pendulum-like. The latter consists of a swaying to and fro by a loop of intestine. I selected the pendular form of peristalsis for observation, and after watching for a minute or two to observe its normal progress I irritated the central end of the vagus. The result was a slowing and in some cases an arrest of the movements for over half a minute. In a few cases the movements were increased after the irritation of the vagus.

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A CLINIC ON NERVOUS AND MENTAL DISEASES.*

By F. SAVARY PEARCE, M. D.

Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia, Pa.

Neurologist to the Philadelphia and to the Howard Hospitals.

Gentlemen:—As is so in the general practice of medicine, I find in neurology a tendency of a particular class of cases to run in groups. To-day I am able to show you three cases of neuritis though varying in etiology, prognosis, diagnosis and somewhat in treatment. I shall present them before you in the order in which I believe therapeutics shall prevail towards the cure or not of the individuals.

Nervous Disease.

CASE I.—Robert F., aged 5 years, white, reported to the nervous dispensary September 3, 1903, with the history given by his physician that five weeks previously he had been suffering from a mild attack of diphtheria. The clinical features of this form of tonsilitis were characteristic, although the laboratory report had been negative. The child was pale, feeble, had difficulty in pronouncing the explosive consonants such as p. b. g., and on attempting to swallow there was slight regurgitation of liquids through the nose. In addition to this there was much enfeebled progression, the distinctly waddling gait with absence of knee jerks and toe drop. The arms were also symmetrically wasted and the deep reflexes diminished; there was, however, no tenderness of the nerve trunks—and this is always a point in favor of the diagnosis of paremchymatis disease of the nerves. The symptoms detailed prevail to-day, now a month since his first visit, with the exception that swallowing has improved. It should be mentioned there was no anaesthesia in this case nor involvement of the sphincters. I am not informed whether anti-toxin was used on the patient but in my experience, though cases so treated are distinctly favorable; diphtheretic anti-toxin in some way is apt to have a detrimental effect upon nerve protoplasm which in conjunction with the diphtheria toxin produces a more profound neuritis.

Treatment—The first essential is rest, the child has been given increasing quantities of milk in small amounts frequently repeated until he is now able to take over a quart daily, and as the dysphagia has improved, solids have been added so that to-day his general physical condition is much better; the child is given general massage daily and the thirtieth of a grain of strychnine thrice daily. Elimination of remaining toxines through catharsis and the drinking of a quart of water daily are to be recommended.

Prognosis is absolutely favorable and I expect to show the case two months later, practically cured.

**Delivered in the amphitheatre of the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital, October 1, 1903.*

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CASE II.—William C., aged 26, white, does not give any history of nervous disease in the family and denies any previous affection himself, except upon careful questioning I find that a year ago he had a mild attack of a similar trouble from which he is suffering to-day, although it was in the right arm then. On August 14, 1903, the man had been drinking heavily, slept as "one dead drunk" that night and on awakening the next morning, discovered he could not move his left arm or fingers but very little, there was also numbness in the fingers and some pain in the left axilla. This paralysis has progressed up to the present time; he cannot supinate or pronate the left arm or flex the fingers nor can he elevate the arm as a whole due to paralysis of the deltoid muscle. It is very much wasted, as you see, the extremity itself being also atrophied, skin glossy, nails brittle and in the upper arm, you will notice small, dry, papules and pustules which represent herpetic eruption over the course of the cutaneous nerves here and this I think is the cause for the considerable distress the man complains of, the feature that is unusual in pressure paralysis which I take this one to be. In this case there is no anaesthesia either, although slight obtunding of sensation exists throughout the cutaneous distribution of nerves from the circumflex down.

In pressure paralysis we have a variety of subacute paremchymatis neuritis due to, in the first place as a rule, acute alcoholic poisoning of nerve tissue in addition to which pressure has caused separation of nerve fibres, with subsequent traumatic low grade inflammation and palsy. Another reason for the development is that sensation and consciousness being depressed from the alcoholic poisoning such a patient is not aroused by pain from pressure upon mixed or sensory nerve trunks. Of course crutch palsy represents pressure palsy but here it is from constant pressure, and as a rule is much longer in its development. In pressure palsy of the usual alcoholic type mentioned, the musculo- spiral nerve is most frequently involved alone since it is easily compressed as it lies rather superficially in the grove of the humerus between the two heads of the triceps muscle. Our patient here shown certainly had considerable more extent of pressure and perhaps through strong abduction of the arm, there was a pulling and separation in this way of the nerve fibres of the brachial plexus.

Treatment.—In this case on account of pain, we have applied a splint, a solution of lead subacetate and laudanum, (25 per cent.) and cotton batting to protect the part from cold; anodynes have occasionally been administered such as antipyrine, grs. 5, phanacetine grs. 8. Recently we have begun the use of massage which is a most valuable agent in these cases and later when the pain will have disappeared, will employ galvanism to the affected muscle by applying the positive pole over the degenerated muscles; when the reaction of degenera-

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tion will have disappeared, we shall employ slow faradic contractions for the redevelopment of wasted muscle fibre. Strychnine sulphate is also given in doses of a thirtieth of a grain three times a day. I hope this man will be well within three months.

CASE III.—The third case is more difficult and from the fact that the spinal cord is affected, we have what may be called a mixed case of neuritis and secondary cord disease. T. K., aged 60, has been a worker for years in white lead and color although he has never complained of lead colic. His first trouble appeared about June 6, 1902, when he is said to have had an attack preceded by frontal headache, partial unconsciousness lasting a half hour and followed by palsy of the throat, dysphagia, and a series of symptoms such as pain in the lower extremities, loss of power, without involvement of the sphincters which made for a diagnosis of chronic interstitial neuritis. Upon examination July 10, 1903, we find a faint blue line on the gums, a slight scanning speech, tremor of the head, tongue and hands of the intention type, there was no disturbance of sensation in general on his body; the knee jerks were slightly exaggerated and there was some pressure tenderness along the sciatic nerve trunks. The bulbar symptoms have been important from the beginning, the reflexes have become more spastic and to-day there seems to be slight nystagmus when the eyes are strained as in looking far to right or left. The history of this case seems to show one of lead neuritis of unusual form since there was considerable pain in the case not usual in lead palsies, and perhaps to be accounted for more by the fact of the case being of interstitial disease of the nerves with an irritation of the sensory nerve fibres rather than a destruction of them. The latter combination of the three cardinals signs of the insular sclerosis, namely scanning speech, increase of reflexes, intention tremor, with slight nystagmus would place the affection as one pathologically of sclerotic plaques scattered through the central nervous system.

Prognosis in central nervous disease is, of course, not hopeful for cure since regeneration cannot occur. This man we are giving educational exercises, a full simple diet, galvanism to the extremities and throat muscles and Donovan solution, four drops three times a day with this; and general hygienic measures. We can hope that nutrition will have so improved that it may be possible for remission to occur which is not unusual in this disease.

Mental Cases.

CASE I.—C. C., aged 4, white, born naturally without any neurotic taint we can discover, was brought to the clinic on account of inability to talk, the child seems bright, is not subject to any form of convulsions, nor is he palsied anywhere except there may be a weakness of the throat. The child is rachitic as shown by the globular

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head and enlargement of the ephyphises of the long bones. We can find no local defect to account for the inability to speak. There is a difficulty of utterance rather than of a faulty local mechanism of speech since he can say mamma and one or two others words, but this is all. This case is instructive as being one of what is designated as a sensorial imbecile such as was the case of Helen Kellar before her wonderful development through education. In the case before you, please remember, that careful treatment of the rickets with encouragement and training of the speech defect may prevent this child from mental enfeeblement due to the lack of ingress and egress of this special sense.

Case II.—C. B., aged 23, white, is an instance of delusional insanity in a woman of neurotic stroke who was first reported on September 22, 1903. She had an aunt through marriage that suffered from mania at one time, of course this could not have affected our patient except by worriment over the experience of a supposed relative being affected. Last summer while at Atlantic City, the patient says she was struck by a wave, eyes became bloodshot, she began then to suffer from queer ideas of which she still complains. I have no idea the traumatism had anything to do with the case but am pretty positive that worriment over family matters was the cause in a sensitive mind of the mental breakdown. She imagined that she was going to be arrested and this delusion grew upon her more and more until she imagined policemen were on the cars looking for her and that people were watching her upon the street cars, at times remarking "that is she," and so forth. There are no fixed ideas in this case and no continuous line of reasoning which is a point in diagnosis as against paranoia, a monomania occurring in young people most hopeless in prognosis. The fact there is no mental disease in the ancestry and that the patient now sees the folly of part of her delusional state leads to the hope that cure will result in her case. The first thing instituted was isolation from her family under the wholesome influence of trained nurses and intelligent direction with the statement to her what that she believed to be true was not so and that she must put confidence in this fact even when the delusion seemed a reality. Indeed to-day our patient is one of the most obedient in the hospital and routine to her has been easy to accomplish, she having set duties to occupy her mind in channels of utilitarian nature. General upbuilding of the patient through good food, occasional doses of bromide at night to insure sleep and some physical exercise in outdoor walking has been a therapeutic employed to what we believe will be a cure. It is sometimes a sensitive soul indeed striving against the rebuffs of the world that develops into insanities such as these and should never be put into an asylum.

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MATERNAL IMPRESSIONS.

Read by Dr. John H. Schaeffer to the Boyd Obstetrical Society.

Gentlemen:—

You will probably recall that at a previous meeting of the Prof. Boyd Obstetrical Society, a discussion arose concerning the subject of maternal impressions, and that at the conclusion of this discussion, it was suggested that a paper be proposed and read before this Society by one of its members, unfortunately this arduous task devolved upon me, and I will endeavor to make the best of it. It is needless for me to remark that I found the subject of maternal impressions a most intricate one, one requiring much of my time and commanding a great deal of research. I exhausted the patience of my medical friends, for some of the physicians approached were afraid to assert themselves and hedged most beautifully, while others again ridiculed the thought, and very emphatically informed me that no one short of an actual prevaricator could pin any faith upon the subject of maternal impressions. I may remark incidentally that while I consulted only the more prominent authorities, I found even here its supporters and non-supporters, and the question a much mooted one, and which seemed to be contradictory in the extreme.

At the conclusion of his first clinic this year, our own Professor Boyd made the statement that he did not place much confidence in maternal impressions, therefore, I need not fear expressing my views on the subject. There are two classes of defects, which have been attributed to maternal impressions:—mental defects and bodily defects; these should be considered separately. Now let us consider the former: That mental defects in the child may be due to violent emotional disturbances of the mother during her pregnancy, is generally acknowledged by those who have given most attention to the subject, and yet the cases of this character, which have been recorded are few in number. History and tradition, it is true, furnish a number of instances of this kind, but they lack the weight, which is given by careful scrutiny of all the attendant circumstances.

Sir Walter Scott for instance mentions that James 1st could not stand the sight of a drawn sword, and a gallant gentleman, who was knighted by the King, makes the statement and acknowledged afterwards that he was apprehensive at the time lest James should let the sword fall upon his shoulders with the wrong side down. The monarch's apprehension was attributed to the fact that prior to his birth, his mother had seen Rizzio cut down in her presence.

A well-known writer and an authority on mental affections stated that it was a well known fact that an officer of the First Napoleon, as to whose courage, there could be no doubt, became pale when he saw a naked parlor sword, the explanation being that his father in a

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fit of jealousy had nearly killed his mother with such a weapon during her pregnancy with Napoleon's future officer.

This same writer reports another case, which came under his own observation and care: A girl who at the time he knew her was twelve or thirteen years of age, was a congenital idiot, the other members of the family, which was a large one, were above the average in point of intelligence. The mother was pregnant with the idiot child during the civil wars of Paris, and was harassed with anxiety for the safety of her husband.

In a paper read before the Obstetrical Society of London, May 7th, 1884, Dr. Arthur Mitchell, Commissioner in lunacy for Scotland, stated that in six cases out of four hundred and forty-three in which an effort was made to establish a cause for idiocy, the influence of maternal impressions was clearly traceable. He further says: The doctors announce it from earliest ages. Why don't they protect their patients, if they believe it, and protect their unborn." Although I do not believe that the mother's sight of any horrid object will cause the child to resemble that object, I do believe that vice in the father will vitiate the character of the child.

Impressions of the father in any form, drinking, eating, smoking, chewing, or any habit weakens the moral character of his children.

It is probably admitted by all, that impressions of physical violence made on the mother may effect the fetus in utero, for instance a blow may detach a portion of the placenta, cause hemorrhage and weaken if not destroy the fetus.

Poison taken by the mother may poison the child. A violent mental shock has also been supposed to affect the development of the child and perhaps no one will deny that impressions on the mind of the mother may affect the development and growth of the child in utero, as they certainly may act upon her own health. But the question arises, can impressions made on the mother's mind by certain objects or thoughts produce deformities in the fetus similar to those which impressed the mother? Or can the child's mind be affected by the thoughts or so-called longings of the mother? From the earliest ages there has been a general belief that the child could be thus influenced, and medical men have fostered that belief, and the majority of writers in the latest works think favorably of it. So far as we are able to judge from the limited data, it would seem that a prolonged impression is far more liable to influence the fetus than a short one, even though the latter may be more violent. It is especially difficult to reach any conclusion on this point, however, because in many instances a sudden and violent shock was followed by a long period of distress.

In Mitchell's cases just cited a few moments ago, for example, it is to be observed that four of the six women suffered from pro-

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longed distress in consequence of the death of a near relative and one of the other two, while the fright was but temporary, the impression was very enduring.

The character of the impression is of great importance. Anxiety and grief seem to hold first place, and fear second, with respect to the frequency with which maternal impressions influence the mental characteristics of the child. But so far as can be learned from the books no case of sudden or excessive joy has produced any appreciable effect.

It is sufficient, also, to establish the period of pregnancy at which maternal impressions are most liable to cause mental defects in the child, and additional difficulty is placed in our way here by the circumstances that the impressions are usually prolonged. It would seem most probable that the mind of the child would be most readily affected in the latter months of pregnancy, as the permanent cerebral convulsions are formed from the seventh month onward. We know nothing about it really. As to our second consideration, namely: Bodily defects, far more cases of bodily than of mental defects have been attributed to maternal impressions.

The inquiry into this significence has given rise to much fruitless speculation, and although a degree of obscurity still remains, as to the essential cause of the several known vices of conformation, and more remarkable anomalies of organization, which occur among all the divisions of the animal kingdom in common with the known species, yet we are gradually approaching to a clearer understanding of the genesis of all varieties of malformation.

The superstitious and absurd explanation of a former age to some extent is still held by a few persons from whom more rational views ought to be expected, though for the most part such as are in no way distinguished, or even known to have bestowed any time upon the subject, or given special attention to the subject of embryogenesis, have nearly vanished before the light, which recent embryological investigations have shed upon the subject.

Nothing would seem to be more irrational than to attempt to explain the anomalies of organization which occur in the humor fetus by mental emotions, and impressions, when it is an undisputed fact that there is not a malformation known which is peculiar to the human species; precisely corresponding malformations, in every respect identical, in external configuration and in internal structure, occur among the lower orders, both in the wild and in the domesticated state.

They are not rare among birds, and are found among reptiles and fishes, in crustaceans and insects, indeed, we may go still further, and find analogous malformations in the vegetable kingdom, where single or multiple plants or parts of plants abound, developments

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which result from arrests, as well as from defective or excessive formative energy.

The recognition of these facts alone ought to be enough to silence the antiquated superstition, that any form of malformation in human fetus could possibly be due to the impressions and vagaries of the maternal mind.

Such flimsy explanations would certainly fail to account for the fact that deep seated organs, the very existence of which is unknown to the pregnant woman are quite as frequently malformed as are the external and visible parts of the body.

Of maternal impressions, as a cause for malformation, judging from the literature I have waded through, it is hardly worth while to speak. There is no scientific foundation for the belief and no proof that maternal impressions can have any affect on the developing embryo. We have just agreed that all malformations found in man are found in lower animals, and in whom you'll agree the influences of impressions cannot be supposed to be of much importance; and they are also found in birds.

In the case of birds, a physician in the Boston Medical Journal cites "We must suppose that an impression acts on the hen during incubation and is transmitted to her by the eggs she is hatching."

Notwithstanding all this, a prominent practitioner, reliable and honest in his convictions, whose veracity cannot be questioned, was kind enough to cite the following, adding that while he had little or no faith in maternal impressions, the case was reported to him by his patient, he takes her word for it and vouches in that way for the accuracy of her statement only. It was a case where the patient was six or seven months pregnant and upon seeing a man, in walking, fall against a passing cart, injuring his abdomen, her witnessing this accident so impressed her that upon the birth of her child, much of its abdominal viscera was extra to the abdominal cavity, the intestines seemed to be covered by a partially transparent membrane, this membrane with its contents seemed to be gathered up at one point resembling a sac, then tapering down to cord consistency, was lost and inserted at the site of the anal orifice; in other words an apparent continuous gut and no anal orifice. The physician states he donated this specimen to the Medico-Chirurgical College nine years ago. Granting that such a case did occur, in Professor Heisler's Embryology, is demonstrated clearly and concisely, the period, manner and succession of the evolution of the several parts and organs of the embryo, yet men relate cases of the malformation or absence of parts, which are evolved previous to the time, when the assumed metamorphosing mental impression was made. A familiar fact to all of us is that anomalies of the vascular system are more common than those of any other part of the body, but the heart and blood vessels

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are so far shut in from direct observation that the influence of maternal impression is the production of these anomalies, has scarcely been noticed. I presume under the circumstances a coincidence. In the case just cited, the impression was so effectual as to cause an undoing an equal time later, in other words causing a retrograde process, altering the shape or condition of a child in the seventh month, which is now almost visible, and that practically formed, at least one half that time previous, and all because a man hurt his abdomen.

According to Professor Heisler's embryology, the heart is indicated the second week, the fourth week, the alimentary canal presents the pharynx, esophagus, stomach and intestines, the pancreas is begun, as is also the liver. In the tenth week, the intestines begin to recede within the abdominal wall and the gastric glands, and glands and villi of the intestines are fairly well formed, the liver is very large and the peritoneum has its adult histological characteristics. There is a probability this mental impression was made after the mother saw her child.

In the Transcontinental Obstetrical Society at London, Dr. Thompson reports an impression received at the seventeenth week in a woman, who saw a friend's breast roughly handled by a surgeon, at birth her child had four mammae, the impression was definitely settled at the seventeenth week.

The development of the human mammae begins in both sexes during the third month (twelfth week), at the fourth (sixteenth week) and fifth month (twentieth week), a few simple tubular glands are arranged radially around the position of the future nipple. In this last class, the duplicate mammae are accounted for by the seventh week, you are privileged to draw your own inferences. That there may be an excess as well as an arrest of development is true, this is an example as well as of supernumerary mammae, supernumerary digited, etc.

Professor Dabney of the University of Virginia in Keating's Encyclopedia of children's diseases, who seems to favor the belief, says: That a coincidence is certainly seen between the cause of the impression upon the mother, and the nature of the defect in the child. He had collected ninety cases of deformity described by medical men, and gives a table showing the reporter, the exact place where it was reported and the period of pregnancy in which the impression was received, the cause of the impression and the nature of the defect in the child. He states that as development of the child goes on regularly and there can be no retrograde process going on in the different parts, the mental impressions, which produce deformities or monstrosities must be received in the very early period of pregnancy before the parts are fully developed. For instance hare lip could not be produced after the union of the two palatal bones, an encephalous

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could not be generated after the cranium was once formed; so called mother's marks, moles, strawberries, beef steak blotches of wine, etc., are affections of the skin. As the skin is later in its development the impressions which produce such blemishes may be later in pregnancy.

The most striking case is that of a lady, who was very fond of a certain woman, who had one blue eye and one black eye, and was lame, and her child had the same peculiarity. As these were so striking, there could not have been the imaginary resemblance. Professor Dabney says all the ninety cases were reported by responsible medical men, and the mothers gave the exact of the impressions which produced the deformity, a few had predicted before birth what the appearance would be and the resulting defect was what was indicated by the cause of the impressions. He says, we are forced to believe it, that we do not know how, does not say it did not occur.

Now in conclusion, may I ask, do maternal mental influences have any constructive or destructive power in the production of malformations or monstrosities?

External mechanical influences such as blows, falls or severe shocks of any kind may by affecting the general health of the pregnant female have power to arrest, retard or otherwise disturb the normal development of the embryo, although the evidence that such has been the case still remains to be furnished.

The explanation of most malformations is to be found in pathological influences analogous to those which occasion morbid changes in the body after birth. These influences may be very manifold. It would seem unnecessary to ascribe all anomalies of organization to a single or even only a few causes.

AT EVERY MEAL, TOO.

"I don't suppose Noah killed any of the animals in the ark for eating purposes."

"No. He must have been a vegetarian."

"Why, he had Ham!"

DIFFERENCE IN TESTIMONY.

"My impression," said the physician, who was testifying before a Coroner's jury, "is that the man was shot in the early hours."

"That's funny," said the Coroner. "This here other witness has done swore that he was shot in the leg!"—Atlanta Constitution.

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MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL COLLEGE—CHEMICAL LABORATORIES SEVENTEENTH AND CHERRY STREETS

Philadelphia, October 12th, 1903.

My Dear Dr. Croskey:—

At your request I herewith transmit to you a short biographic sketch of George H. Meeker, Professor of Chemistry in the Medico-Chirurgical College.

Very truly yours,

MATTHEW BEARDWOOD, M. D.

George Herbert Meeker was born in Phillipsburg, N. J., in 1871. His preliminary education was received in the Phillipsburg High School, from which he graduated in 1899. He was graduated from Lafayette College after a four years' course in chemistry with the degree B. S. in 1893. The Master's degree was conferred in 1895; and after a three years' course in natural science he received the degree Ph. D. in 1897.

He has held a number of responsible positions in the chemical and industrial world. At different times he has held the position of chemist or metallurgist in the following companies: Secancus Iron Co., New Jersey Zinc and Iron Co., Longdale Iron Co., Andover Iron Co., and general manager of the New Jersey Agricultural Chemical Co. His private business is that of chemical engineer and general chemical expert. He was elected professor of physics and chemistry in the Medico-Chirurgical College in 1897 and since then has built up a course in chemistry which is well organized, thoroughly scientific, concise and yet sufficiently comprehensive, a credit to himself and the institution with which he is affiliated.

The design and appointments of the new combined chemical lecture room and laboratory together with the smaller laboratories of special research, toxicology and metallurgy is a monument to his originality and painstaking attention to detail. He has been the expert chemist for commonwealth or defence in all homicide cases by poisoning in the courts of the county of Philadelphia for the last six years; besides doing much similar work in larger counties of the State. Dr. Meeker has proved himself an extraordinary expert witness; his testimony in the late Williams murder trial being described by an eminent toxicologist who was present as wonderful.

He has done much original work in theoretic, analytic and especially physical chemistry. His work in the latter when fully complete will tend to explain and clarify much that is occult in natural science.

Dr. Meeker possesses the rare combination of a great brain and a large heart, which together with his integrity and equitable dealing have won for him the confidence and esteem of the student body, as well as that of his associates.

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GEORGE H. MEEKER, M. S., Ph. D.
Professor of Physics, Chemistry and Metallurgy

Insert to the October Issue
Journal of the Medico-Chirurgical College

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THE JOURNAL OF THE MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA

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JOHN WELSH CROSKEY, '89 M, EDITOR

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EDITORIALS

THE REWARDS OF THE PROFESSION.

It is natural that the man who takes up the study of medicine with the idea of making its practice his life work should indulge in more or less speculation as to the reward he is likely to reap from his chosen profession.

The man who expects any extravagant return in the shape of material benefits, is very likely to have his idea rudely shattered, unless he has phenomenal ability and a greater share of good fortune than falls to the lot of most men.

It is true that a few men who have achieved great eminence in their profession earn a correspondingly large income by their practice, but they are few and far between. It is safe to say that outside of these few the average physician barely earns a living and has to work harder for it than in any other of the learned professions.

The student when he begins his course of study had better understand this fully and make up his mind that his greatest and most satisfactory rewards will be the consciousness of good work well done; the knowledge that he has by his skill acquired through years of study and toil done something to alleviate the suffering, the sorrow and the misery of a world in which happiness does not come to too many and in which trouble and sickness come to all.

Starting with this goal alone in view the physician if made of the right material may safely look forward to a successful career in the highest sense of the word.

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There is no calling in life which affords its followers such opportunities for good as that of the physician. The lawyer, the banker, or the merchant may give aid in business and in some of the social phases of life; the minister can and does give spiritual comfort to the afflicted, but to the doctor alone is given the privilege of affording the same help in those directions, and in addition to alleviate and often to entirely remove the physical sufferings of his fellow men.

Can there be greater reward than ability to assure anxious friends and relatives that the loved one has passed the crisis of the disease and will live. Is any fee equal to the grateful looks and the warm hand clasp of the mother whose little one has been snatched by the doctor's skill from the very jaws of death.

But while these will be the greatest prizes to all and the only prizes to many there are wealth and distinction also to be won in the medical profession. But they will be the fruits of untiring industry pursued for many years, and will only come to those who concentrate every energy on their work and who display in business affairs the same acumen which would have made them successful in almost any line of life.

A PRIDE TO THEIR COLLEGE.

Medico-Chi again has a right to be proud of the students in her Dental Department. For the second time the entire graduating class has carried off the honors before the State Board of Examiners, by the winning of the highest mark (100) in Prosthetic Dentistry by every man in the class.

But the college takes still greater pride in possessing among its faculty Dean Dr. Robert H. Nones and Dr. H. B. Nones, whose untiring efforts and distinguished ability as instructors have enabled the students of two successive classes to achieve such honors.

The men of 1904 will have the same advantages and if they will work as faithfully as their predecessors may like them stand at the head of the list when they have passed the ordeal of the State Board.

MRS. EDDY'S INSPIRATION.

There has been from the first promulgation of the peculiar doctrines of Mrs. Eddy, the great apostle of Christian Science, a great deal of curiosity as to the original source of her inspiration. It was known that Mrs. Eddy was not a learned woman. She had achieved no reputation as a philosophical thinker. The study of the abstruse and metaphysical was not supposed to be in her line and it seemed strange that she should have struck out a new line of thought. These

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very facts have been put forward by her admirers and adherents as one of the most convincing proofs of her being an inspired writer.

The strangest thing of all is that her inspiration seems, to judge from the similarity of the fundamental ideas, that her inspiration would seem to have been drawn from the writings of an eminent divine, who was a leader in thought in a church which is about as far removed from "Christian Science" as a church can be.

According to Mrs. Eddy the only real thing which exists in the whole universe is mind or spirit. Matter is nowhere really present as an actual substance. Material phenomena, so called, have no being save as projections of the mind. There is no world outside of consciousness. Everything we see is merely the product of our thought.

Nearly one hundred years ago Jonathan Edwards, the great exponent of Puritan belief of his day, wrote:

"Bodies have no existence of their own.

"All existence is mental. The outer world is really but a series or complex of ideas created in us by God.

"The universe exists nowhere but in the Divine mind and this divine idea of it God reproduces in us"

In these few sentences of the great speculative philosopher of the Presbyterian church is the whole nut of the foundation theories of Science and Health. Mrs. Eddy is not even an original thinker and those who care for speculative philosophy may see the idea worked out to a logical conclusion by a master mind if they will study the works of Edwards and that logic leads, not to Christian Science, but to Calvanism, much of which has been discarded by the church which he founded.

SPECTACLES FOR DUNCES.

The School Directors of Cleveland, Ohio, have just received the report of experts employed to ascertain what colored shade on the windows of the schools was the best for the eyes of the children. The experts report in favor of cream color or buff, which seems to give a light less trying than any other.

It would not be a bad idea for the Board of Education of this city to have experts examine the school houses of this city to ascertain how many of the rooms are unfit for use because they are insufficiently lighted, and how many there are in which the pupils' eyes are being ruined by the crase lights which are equally trying to the eyes.

A city oculist, to examine the eyes of all pupils to see whether the vision is perfect, would also be a desirable thing. If there were

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such an officer many a pupil who is now looked upon as stupid or careless would be found merely a sufferer from defective sight. A good pair of glasses would in many instances transform the "dunce" or "inattentive" scholar into a pupil in whom his teachers and parents would take a pride. The lack of a pair of spectacles keeps many a boy or girl at the foot of the class who with them might be at the head.

GENUINE RABIES.

On Tuesday, the 7th, there was a case of death from genuine hydrophobia in this city. There are frequent deaths from violent hysteria resulting from fright, caused by the bite of a dog or cat, in which all the popularly received symptoms of hydrophobia are so simulated that doctors are puzzled to know whether the case is genuine rabies or not.

In this case the man had forgotten about the insignificant scratch of the dog's tooth and attributed the pains in his arm, when they first manifested themselves to rheumatism, consequent to other injuries received about the same time. But whether the attack is imaginary or real, death often results and in every case of a bite by a cat or dog prophylactic treatment should be resorted to at once. A thorough opening and cleansing of the wound with an antiseptic should be given at once. This should be followed as soon as possible by inacentation and treatment by the Pasteur method.

If the animal has rabies prompt prophylaxis will in most cases prevent the disease developing in the human being. And in cases where the animal was not "mad" the preventive treatment will relieve the mind of the person bitten and in most instances prevent a dangerous attack of hysteria.

It is pleasant to note that from the outset, the spirit evinced for athletics at the Chi is more promising than it has been for years. This feeling, now so strong, is no doubt the result of the disastrous failure of last year. For the first time in the history of the college, the foot ball team did not win a single victory, we did not lack material last year, but we did lack a good business-like organization, and the team, which represented the College, while making untiring efforts to themselves, were not properly trained, and did not receive the support from the students of the College. It should be stated that many individuals, animated by a true college spirit, did give financial and moral support to the team.

To all it will be pleasant news that the Athletic Association is

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to be fully reorganized, and that the finances of the Institution are going to be put on a business-like basis. Three students have been appointed from each class, with full power to adopt any measures they may consider best for the good of the Association. Those, who are most active in this movement, hope to be able to put the Association on a basis that will give it a future, and will also give it a financier that will insure its success. We can look forward to one of the best foot ball teams we have ever had. There is good material to be had, and all that is needed is the necessary practice and a good coach.

At the first meeting of the committee the officers for the present year will be elected, a plan for raising funds will be considered, an assessment of a nominal sum will be taxed upon each student, and every one connected with the Institution will be asked to give something towards this worthy cause. At the same time we propose to be able to show everyone that with the present management there can be no misuse of the funds of the Association, a valuable fact, and one that the writer considers of most importance.

To those who are interested in the future of the College, this potent factor of a good first class athletic association will appeal to them, and they should give support in every way possible to the Association.

A.G.R.

RUSH.

The usual yearly rush at the College is over. This year it was of unusual interest to the students, as the present Freshmen's class were most promising looking fellows. An unusual quiet pervaded the ranks of both Sophomores and Freshmen the first few days of College. This could not last a great while, therefore it was no surprise that on Friday, (Date), at 4.45, the demonstration began. The mixup took place in the Anatomical Room, lasting fully thirty minutes, during this time everyone was busy. The rush was orderly and no one was injured. The Sophs as usual won the victory, the Freshs admit themselves fairly beaten, and a good feeling prevails in both classes.

A.G.R.

"THE COLLEGE GLEE CLUB."

At a meeting held Wednesday evening, October 7th, by members of the different classes of the respective departments of the school, there was organized a much needed College Glee Club. This subject has long been under consideration by many of our students, and the need of such an organization is appreciated by all. The success is undoubtedly assured, since, as many will be pleased to

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learn Professor J. C. Heisler has been unanimously elected honorary chairman, and better, has accepted the office. Professor Heisler was good enough to interest himself considerably in behalf of the Club, and doubtless it is due to his efforts that a beginning has been reached. The acting officers elected at this meeting are as follows: Chairman, J. J. Emmens, '05; Secretary, R. W. Howard, '05; Treasurer, H. S. Riddle, '04. Mr. R. L. Wilson, Milton C. Percival, A. R. Evans and N. O. Weinberger were appointed to draw up a constitution, and Woods, F. C. Ward, J. M. Rosenblum, J. F. Rowles and Hart will act as music committee.

The singing in our college is indeed far from what it should be. This is not because there is lack of material, but because sufficient interest has not been taken in the matter, and further because we are lacking both in College songs and music. Now then here is the opportunity for our literary and musical talents to do something for us. It is earnestly requested that any student who may feel so inclined, will please submit either music or verse for consideration by the music committee. Certainly, we have men capable of writing good songs, and no doubt many will be forthcoming. Address all such matter to the Music Committee, care of Mr. R. W. Howard, Secretary. If you do not care to have your name published, please state the fact, and the same will be considered strictly confidential. It is hoped this appeal will be seriously considered by all and that good material will be secured.

There are many reasons why we should have such an organization as this. First, it promotes college enthusiasm and spirit, and it increases the stock of "Home Talent" to help with our entertainments. The student body will learn the club songs, and thus it will promote the singing of the men as a College Body. Our foot ball games, and other public functions will be more entertaining, and greatly enlivened by the spirit that good singing can lend.

There will be another meeting held very shortly. Time and place will be announced before hand. It is hoped that everyone, who can sing sufficiently well, will help with the work already started and will come to this meeting. The Committee will thank any such to hand in their names now, that they may know how many to provide for. At the last meeting there were twenty-five men present, all of them could sing, and the results were quite astonishing. We hope to have at least thirty-five present at the next meeting. Remember, this is not a political or social club, and any man has the privilege of joining.

All members will be expected to pay monthly dues, the amount has not been determined upon, however, it will not be large. Support will also be expected from each class. A.G.R.

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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

DR. JESSE C. PFAFF.

Medico-Chirurgical College is again called upon to mourn one of her sons who, had he lived, would have certainly achieved distinction in his chosen calling and have reflected honor upon his Alma Mater.

In the death of Dr. Jesse C. Pfaff, chief of the Orthopedic Department, who died on Sept. 6th of typhoid fever after an illness of ten days the college loses one of the most valued of its staff.

Dr. Pfaff was born at Mt. Carmel, Pa., January 16, 1881, and although he had already made a name for himself was only 22 years old when taken away from his labors. He was the son of Joseph C. and Emily L. Pfaff of that place.

His parents removed to Slatington when he was a young boy and his early education was gained in the public schools of that place. He graduated from the High School at Slatington in 1898, and then came to Philadelphia. After one year of study in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania he entered the Medico-Chirurgical College, where he completed his medical course, graduating in 1902.

He was immediately appointed resident physician in the College Hospital. He filled the position with marked ability and in July of this year Prof. J. P. Mann made him chief assistant of the Orthopedic Department, which position he occupied at the time he was stricken with the disease which ended his career of usefulness.

Dr. Pfaff was a man of great promise. He was genial, warm hearted, sympathetic, possessed of a high order of intelligence and progressive in spirit. His many fine qualities endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. His ability won him the esteem of the entire faculty and they all mourn the loss of a loyal son of the college whose career promised to reflect credit upon the institution.

"FAITH HEALING IS CRIMINAL NEGLECT."

N. Y. Court of Appeals Affirms Pierson's Conviction.

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 13.—Especial interest attaches to the decision handed down to-day by the Court of Appeals in the case of the people vs. Pierson, declaring dependence upon "faith healing" in the case of sickness to be criminal negligence. Pierson lives at

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White Plains, and early in 1901 was sentenced to 500 days' imprisonment or fined $500 for criminal neglect in failing to provide a licensed physician to attend his 16 months old adopted daughter in a case of bronchial pneumonia, which afterward proved fatal. Pierson and his wife belong to the "Christian Catholic Church," of which John Alexander Dowie is the "General Overseer," and a cardinal principle of their faith is the avoidance of drugs.

The conviction was secured under the penal code, which holds that "a person who omits without lawful excuse to perform a duty by law imposed upon him, to furnish food, clothing, shelter or medical attendance to a minor, is guilty," etc.

Justice Bartlett, in the prevailing opinion in the Appellate Division, held that the "medical attendance" referred to in the statute does not mean exclusively the attendance of a medical practitioner in the general sense of the term. The appellate Division reversed the conviction.

Judge Haight's Opinion.

In its opinion, written by Judge Haight, the Court of Appeals says:

"It would seem that the legislative intent is reasonably clear, although possibly more precise language could have been employed. The section of the code under which the indictment was found contemplates that there are persons upon whom the law casts a duty of caring for minors. We are aware that there are people who believe that the divine power may be invoked to heal the sick, and that faith is all that is required. There are others who believe that the Creator has supplied the earth, nature's storehouse, with everything that man may want for his support and maintenance, including the restoration and preservation of his health, and that he is left to work out his own salvation under fixed natural laws. There are still others who believe that Christianity and science go hand in hand, both proceeding from the Creator; that science is but the agent of the Almighty, through which he accomplishes results, and that both science and divine power may be invoked together to restore diseased and suffering humanity.

"But, sitting as a court of law for the purpose of construing and determining the meaning of statutes, we have nothing to do with variances in religious belief, and have no power to determine which is correct. We place no limitations upon the power of the mind over the body, the power of faith to dispel disease, or the power of the Supreme Being to heal the sick. We merely declare the law as given us by the Legislature. We find no error on the part of the trial court that called for a reversal."

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Dr. H. M. Christian has been elected Clinical Professor of Genito Urinary Diseases, Dr. S. Leon Gans, Clinical Cemonstrator of Genito Urinary Diseases, and Dr. George W. Pfromm, Clinical Professor of applied Therapeutics, at the Medico-Chirurgical College.

Just as we go to press we learn with deepest regret of the death of Dr. Ludwig S. Filbert, Vice-President of the Board of Trustees of the Medico-Chirurgical College. Dr. Filbert was in every sense of the word a self made man and he took good care to make a model after-which any young man might pattern. The College looses in the death of its Vice-President a good counseler and a good friend.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held Monday October 19th, Dr. Judson Daland was elected professor of Clinical Medicine.

The New Filtering System.—Chief Hill of the filtration bureau has published a series of results of recently completed sand filters of the new system being installed. The results are the best ever attained by such methods. On August 8 the Schuylkill river water showed 42,000 bacteria per c.c.; one of the Lower Roxborough filters reduced the number to 12, while the poorest showing was 68 to the cubic centimeter. This filter system will be described in THE JOURNAL in the near future.

Public Bath Association.—The Public Bath Association of Philadelphia was organized in 1897, and, after making a search of the city, Gaskill street, between Fourth and Fifth, was finally selected as the place most in need of public baths. This locality was densely populated with people of every nationality and of that condition in life sadly in need of encouragement in frequent ablutions. A combined bath house and laundry was erected and the nominal sum of 5 cents charged for soap and water and a shower bath, and in the laundry department a like sum was charged per hour for each individual for hot and cold water furnished, a tub, ironing board, irons, heat, etc. The institution was so well patronized and worked such a reformation in the locality that the association was encouraged to establish a similar bath house and laundry at 718 Wood street in 1902. This also met with unqualified success so far as patronage and good accomplished were concerned, and in August of the present year a third bath house and laundry was opened not far from the original one on Gaskill street. Of course the nominal sum charged does not meet the expenses of these institutions which are met by public contribution from liberal persons. The Bath Association of Philadelphia works in entire harmony with the city in its system of free baths.

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Milk Dealers in Pittsburg Organize.—News from Pittsburg says that 300 milk-dealers in convention here have perfected an organization which practically places the trade of Pittsburg and Allegheny in the hands of the combine. The organization will be known as the Milk Producers' Association of Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. Agents will be stationed at all shipping points, and in this city an agent will be placed who will have charge of selling the milk to the dealers. A condition of membership is that the members must ship only pure milk.

Milk Examined Free.—An invitation is extended by the officers of the Bureau of Health to any and all persons who may desire, to submit to the chemists of the bureau any milk which they may desire, and chemical analysis will be rendered free of charge. The object is not only to prevent the consumption of impure milk, but to find, if possible, every dealer who is furnishing adulterated or medicated milk in any way whatsoever.

Dry Asepsis Versus Moist Antisepsis.—This communication from v. Bergmann's clinic is valuable testimony in favor of dry asepsis. For treatment of accidental wounds dry iodoform gauze deserves the preference, as it absorbs blood and secretions while at the same time having a destructive action on bacteria. The number of germs diminished much more rapidly in suppurating wounds under dry than under moist dressings. Many accidental wounds with large quantities of germs heal with no symptoms of inflammation.

Swindling Illegal Practitioners.—According to the detective department of the city a number of swindlers have conspired to blackmail medical practitioners who do an illegal business. It is stated that three persons call together on their victims, show them warrants and if they do not put up goodly sums of money they tell them they are under arrest. It is needless to say that the money is forthcoming and "arrest" is escaped. It is "Greek meet Greek" when knaves and swindlers prey upon each other.

Alba Dentists Company Must Explain.—Action has been brought against the Alba Dentist Company, which has a number of dental parlors in Philadelphia, for its violation of the law and its own implied contracts in employing student dentists to do certain of the professional work in its dental parlors. Also the company must explain why it is not exercising any of the objects authorized by its charter, and is not engaged in manufacturing or supplying any surgical instruments or supplies or appliances, such as it uses in the business conducted by itself, but on the other hand is doing the customary work of the professional dentists, which appears to be contrary to its charter.

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THERAPEUTIC NOTES

CHRONIC PURULENT OTITIS MEDIA.

The following combination is recommended by "Bal. Med. de Nantes" as local treatment for chronic otorrhea:

℞. Resorcin . . . . . gr. xx
Tinct. opii . . . . . gtt. xv
Aq. destil. . . . . ʒii

M. Sig.: A few drops to be introduced into the ear.

The ear should be thoroughly irrigated with a warm boric acid solution and dried with absorbent cotton. A few drops of the foregoing solution is then dropped into the ear and allowed to remain a few minutes.

According to Dench, in his treatise on "Diseases of the Ear," there are two objects aimed at in the treatment of chronic purulent otitis media:

1. To stop the discharge.

2. To relieve the subjective symptoms and to improve the hearing.

In order to accomplish these results the ear must be kept clean by irrigation. In irrigating the ear the patient must be carefully instructed as to the method of syringing or all the pus will not be removed. The ear should be drawn upward and backward, thus straightening the auditory meatus. The syringe should have a blunt nozzle, rendering it impossible to be carried into the ear far enough to do injury to the membrana tympani. The syringe should be directed downward and forward toward the tip of the nose. The fluid should be injected with moderate force and the temperature of the solution should be carefully observed, for if it is either too hot or too cold pain will be produced; so the patient should be the guide in choosing the proper temperature. Not less than one pint should be used at each irrigation. The author advises a 1-5.000 bichlorid solution, a saturated solution of boric acid or a 2 per cent. solution of carbolic acid. The patient should be instructed to wipe out the ear with small pledgets of cotton twisted about a small toothpick or metallic holder. He condemns the use of powders, as crusts may be formed and act as barriers to the outflow of pus. In the hands of experienced physicians, he states, astringent or stimulating powders are of value, especially after the discharge has greatly reduced and only a small amount of moisture remains. In such cases the insufflation of boric acid, zinc oxid, iodoform, or a mixture consisting of equal parts of alum and boric acid is of great service in entirely checking the secre-

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tion. Only a minute quantity must be used. If pain should again arise, the patient must be instructed to again syringe the ear and to follow out the same procedure if the discharge should set up again. If granulations form they may be touched up with chromic acid or silver nitrate fused on a metal probe. The use of chromic acid for this purpose is preferred.

In using the bichlorid solution some authors prefer the following combinations in the treatment of otorrhea:

℞. Hydrarg. bichloridi . . . . . gr. ss
Acidi tartarici . . . . . gr. xx
Aquæ . . . . . ʒiv

M. Sig.: To be used as a wash for the ear.

The powerful toxic character of the bichlorid should be remembered and care exercised in its use, no matter what strength solution is used.

In cases of moist eczema of the external auditory passages the following is recommended:

℞. Alumenis (burnt)
Amyli, *aa* . . . . . ʒii
Zincic oxidi . . . . . ʒss

M. Ft. pulvis. Sig.: To be used locally on the affected parts.

The following combination containing carbolic acid is recommended in the treatment of otorrhea:

℞. Acidi carbol.
Plumbi acetatis, *aa* . . . . . gr. x
Tinct. opii . . . . . ʒii
Aquæ . . . . . ʒviii

M. Sig.: Warm the mixture and irrigate the ear twice daily; or:

℞. Acidi carbol.
Zinci Sulph.
Plumbi acetatis, *aa* . . . . . gr. x
Aq. destil. . . . . ʒviii

M. Sig.: Inject into the ear night and morning.

CHRONIC PHARYNGITIS.

The following combinations are recommended by "Jour. des Pract." in the treatment of chronic pharyngitis:

℞. Sodii boratis . . . . . ʒii
Tinct. myrrhæ . . . . . ʒi
Infusi cocæ foliæ . . . . . ʒviii

M. Sig.: Use as a gargle every two hours; or:

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℞. Potassii chloratis . . . . . ʒiiss
Infusi rubi fol. . . . . ʒiv
Infusi cochleariæ (cocgh grass) . . . . . ʒss

M. Sig.: To be used as a gargle.

ABORTIVE TREATMENT OF FURUNCLES.

Reich, in an abstract in "Med. Age," states that positive results are obtained by the treatment of boils with superheated dry-air. The heat is directly injurious to pathogenic organisms; active hyperemia of the tissues and consequently increased resistance to bacterial invasion is induced. The skin is sterilized and dangers to reinfection rendered less probable. According to the author's statement, in no case where the treatment was begun early did suppuration or tissue necrosis take place. The infiltration of the surrounding tissue disappeared more rapidly than ordinary in abortive cases. Reinfection in the tissue surrounding the boil never occurred. In cases of general infection the tendency to fresh boil formation was greatly diminished. He states that this form of treatment reduces the tension in the infiltrated tissue and relieves the pain as a result.

CHOREA.

The following combinations are of value in the treatment of chorea, according to Yeo in his "Clin. Ther.:"

℞. Asafetidæ . . . . . gr. xx
Ext. valerianæ . . . . . gr. xx
Zinci oxidi . . . . . gr. x
Ext. belladonnæ . . . . . gr. ii

M. Ft. pil. No. xx. Sig.: One or two, night and morning; or:

℞. Ferri reducti . . . . . gr. i-iii
Quininæ sulph. . . . . gr. ii-v
Acidi arsenosi . . . . . gr. 1/50 to 1/30

M. Ft. cap. No. i. Sig.: One such capsule after meals three times a day.

As a hypodermic injection the following combination is recommended:

℞. Sodii arsenatis . . . . . gr. iss
Acidi carbol. . . . . m. iii
Aquæ destil. . . . . ʒiiss

M. Sig.: Five minims to be injected daily.

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FACIAL ACNE.

In the treatment of acne of the face, according to "Medicine Moderna," hot water should be applied locally, after which the following applications should be employed:

℞. Hydrarg. bichloridi . . . . . gr. viiss-xv
Eau de cologne . . . . . ʒviii

M. Ft. lotio. Sig.: Apply locally.

And as an ointment or cream the following is recommended:

℞. Aq. rosæ . . . . . ʒss
Lanolini (anhydrous) . . . . . ʒiss
Aquæ . . . . . ʒiiss

M. Sig.: Apply locally.

LAXATIVE COMBINATIONS.

The "Presse Medicale" recommends the following combinations as serviceable remedies in correcting constipation in adults:

℞. Extracti frangulæ flu.
Extracti cascaræ flu. *aa* . . . . . ʒvi
Glycerini . . . . . ʒiii

M. Sig.: One or two teaspoonfuls at bedtime; or:

℞. Ext. cascaræ . . . . . gr. 3/4
Podophyllin . . . . . gr. 1/7
Ext. hyoscyami . . . . . gr. 1/7
Euonymin . . . . . gr. 3/7
Pulv. saponis, q. s.

M. Ft. pil. No. i. Sig.: One or two such pills at bedtime; or:

℞. Euonymin
Podophyllin, *aa* . . . . . gr. 3/10
Ext. hydrastis Canaden.
Pulv. saponis, *aa* . . . . . gr. ss

M. Ft. pil. No. i. Sig.: One such pill at bedtime.

LEG ULCERS.

The treatment of ulcers of the leg, according to Fischkin in "Med. Standard," consists, 1, in the removal of conditions which may induce or favor necrosis; 2, the production of conditions which will favor the healing process as much as possible. The general outline of treatment consists, according to the author, in:

1. Aseptic cleansing of the leg.

2. Elevation of the leg and application of bandages to remove the venous stasis.

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3. The application of remedial agents to induce healthy granulations.

4. The application of such remedies as will favor normal cornification.

5. The application of such remedies to surrounding tissues with a view to healing associated conditions, such as eczema, which may be caused by venous stasis.

In carrying out the first indication the leg should be bathed with soap and water unless great eczema is present, in which case alcohol dressings may be used, or a boric acid or 5 per cent. liquor alum. acetatis or a solution of hydrogen peroxid may be substituted.

These indolent, anemic ulcers must be stimulated in order to promote the formation of healthy granulations. This may be done by syringing the ulcer with hot water or a 1 to 2,000 potassium permanganate solution. The syringing should be followed by an iodoform dressing or the base of the ulcer painted with pure tincture of iodin or the application of unguentum hydrarg. rubrum, balsam of Peru or other stimulating remedies.

If the granulations project too high, caustics and astringents must be applied, such as argenti nitras, 10 per cent. Gangrenous ulcers are to be first cleansed with a hot potassium permanganate solution, followed by the application of a few drops of the following combination:

℞. **Chloralis hydratis** . . . . . ℥iiss
Camphoræ . . . . . ℥iss
Glycerini . . . . . ℥iss

M. Sig.; Apply locally.

An iodoform dressing is then applied.

Epithelization and cornification may be encouraged by carefully dressing the ulcer and producing drainage in order to prevent the accumulation of the secretions; or the base of the ulcer should be painted with a 2 to 4 per cent. solution of silver nitrate followed by bismuth subnitrate dermatol or ichthoform dressing. The ulcer is then covered with a gutta percha dressing to aid drainage and to prevent the adhesions of dressings. The surrounding eczemas must be treated. If the eruption is vesicular or in the stage of serous discharge pastes must not be employed, but in their stead a dry powder as follows:

℞. **Zinci oxidi**
Talci venet,
Amyli, *aa* . . . . . ℥iiss
Acidi borici . . . . . **gr. xlv**

M. Sig.: Apply locally.

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HAY FEVER

There Are Many Theories

regarding the causation of HAY FEVER, including Uric Acid or other depraved state of the system, Micro-Organisms in the air and pollen from plants. Whatever theory is adopted and a systemic treatment undertaken to correspond with it, it has been found that intelligent local treatment is productive of great benefit. ¶ For this purpose a thorough washing or douching of the nasal passages with a weak hot solution of **Tyree's Antiseptic Powder** has been found very beneficial. It cleanses the membrane of poisonous secretions, soothes its irritability, and tones it up and strengthens it to resist further invasion. By frequent repetition as soon as any feeling of discomfort begins to return, the attack can be greatly shortened and the patient made comparatively comfortable throughout its duration.

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In the dry form of eczema some tar preparation is better as follows:

℞. Olei cadini
Olei rusci
Spiritus
Spts. etheris, *aa* . . . . . ʒiiss

M. Sig.: Apply locally.

The author also recommends Unna's paste prepared as follows:

℞. Zinci oxidi . . . . . ʒx
Gelatin . . . . . ʒv
Glycerini . . . . . ʒi
Aq. destil. . . . . ʒiiss

M. Sig.: Apply locally with a soft brush, changing the dressing in 3 to 10 days.

In the ordinary ulcers accompanied by pain the following is recommended as a dressing:

℞. Tinct. benzoini comp. . . . . ʒiv
Balsami peru. . . . . ʒii
Lanolini . . . . . ʒx
Ext. belladonnae . . . . . gr. xxx

M. Ft. unguentum. Sig.: Apply locally.

As a local application in syphilitic ulcer the author recommends the mercurial plaster; or if the ulcer is not clean bathe with a mercurial bath and dust with calomel. Iodids should be given internally.

Some authors recommend the following combination in the treatment of syphilitic ulcers:

℞. Hydrarg. chloridi mitis . . . . . ʒi
Ichthoformi . . . . . ʒss
Petrolati . . . . . ʒviss

M. Sig.: Apply locally; or:

℞. Iodol . . . . . ʒi
Sig.: Apply freely to the ulcer.

Sig.: Apply freely to the ulcer.

DRUG ERUPTIONS.

The following divisions of drug eruptions is made by Pernet, according to an abstract in "Amer. Med.:"

1. Erythematous, papular and urticarial eruptions. They may be caused by atropin, arsenic, quinin, copaiba, antipyrin, chrysarobin or mercury and iodoform locally. The diagnosis, according to the

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author is not easy. From scarlet fever the differentiation is made chiefly by the mode of onset, the examination of the urine and the absence of corroborative symptoms. Multiformity of lesions is rather in favor of drug origin. The existence of a disease likely to be treated by one of the foregoing drugs, as gonorrhea (copaiba), headache (antipyrin), should be inquired into.

2. *Vesicular* and *bullous* lesions may be caused by antipyrin, quinin, arsenic, salipyrin, or the salicylates and less often by morphin, chloral or mercury. Iodids rarely cause bullas unmixed with pustules.

3. Pustular eruptions are most commonly due to bromids or iodids. The bromid rash has frequently been mistaken for syphilis. It must be remembered that bromids are found in many of the proprietary remedies.

4. Purpuric rashes may be caused by those drugs mentioned in the first paragraph.

5. Pigmentation is caused by arsenic, especially on those parts of the body not exposed to the air. [It is occasionally observed in cases of chorea treated by arsenic.]

The coal tar preparations have also been known to produce a permanent pigmentation of the skin. The silver salts may produce a blue discoloration.

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"Your gloves remind me of our twins."

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"Why, they're a pair of kids exactly alike."

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Mary had a little lamb,
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  She had a doctor, too.

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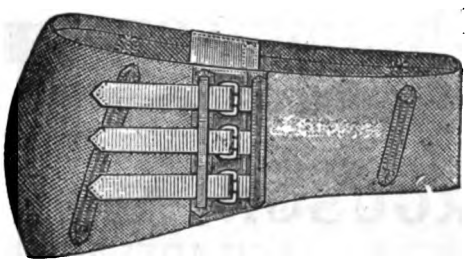

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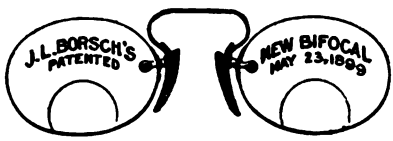

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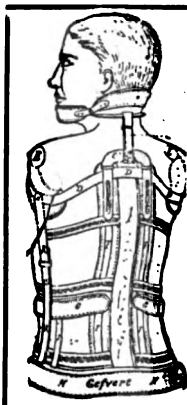

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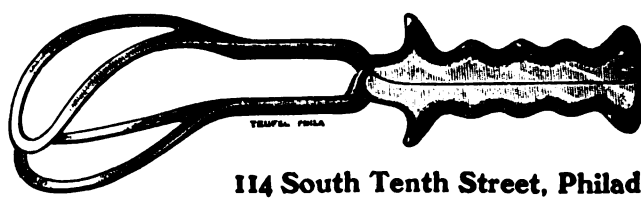

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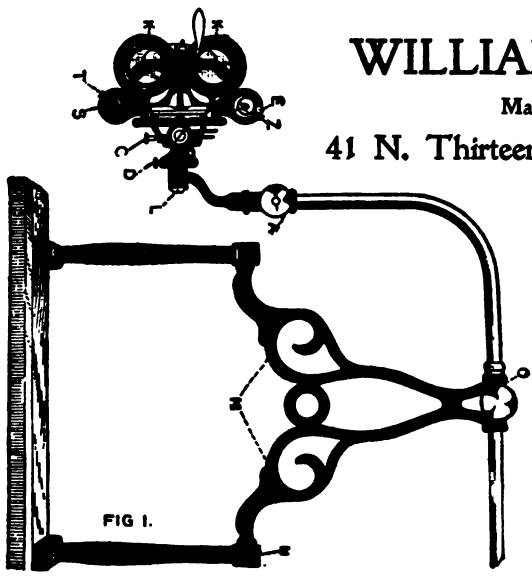

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